

Minutes of the Senior Center Special Meeting
Senior Center – June 11, 2015 – 5 p.m.

Members present: Rob Michalman, Ruth Clark, Faith Robelen, MaryEllen Tunsky, Marcia Dufore, Sharon Kozaczka Bob Brooks absent.

Directors present: Paula Pascoe, Denise Winiarski, Janet Frechette, Leslie Offenbach

Chairman Rob Michalman called the special meeting to order at 5 p.m., June 11.

Citizen Comment: None

Ms. Tunsky reported that she has a new email address:

Mtunsky@gmail.com.

Minutes: Ms. Clark moved to approve the minutes of May 14, 2015 as amended by the correction of 40 to 35 years of service for MOW volunteer Flo Packard; the motion was seconded and the amended minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

Directors's Reports

Senior Center Director Paula Pascoe reported that the Dinner for the recognition for the Volunteers was held last Tuesday and was enjoyed by all. Tami Zawistowski, the State Representative for the 61st District, presented the volunteers Citations of Appreciation for their dedicated services. The upgrades for the kitchen were approved by the Town Meeting, and the ACCE projects will begin soon.

Suffield Mini Bus Director Denise Winiarski distributed her written report. She noted that 617 passengers traveled 6,823 miles, with the average of 31 riders per day, during 20 days of service. She granted a request from the Suffield High School to transport 2 students with a disability to a work study program.

Director of Suffield Social Services, EAA Janet Frechette distributed her written report. Fuel Aid: At this time of the year, the help that is being requested is for utility shut offs due to non-payment of bills. The EAA attempts to partner on these bills to either retain or restore service. Meals-on-Wheels: We have lost some volunteers to a summer schedule and hope to bring on new volunteers to fill the void. The Juvenile Review Board did meet this month but it is noted that the JVB very much needs to re-organize its forms and processes. This board has 17 members.

Director of Youth Services Leslie Offenbach distributed her written report. She noted that she has just completed the Youth Services Bureau grant application to be submitted to the State Department of Education next week. She reported three top goals for the near future:

- 1) Increase communication with the Community. She would like to write a monthly column
- 2) Juvenile Review Board – JRB seems to be a highly underutilized program; she is in the process of creating the “case management role” for the Board which will include a structured needs assessment for referred youth and their families.
- 3) Organize and support different programs for youth in the Town.

The Commission discussed the JVB; its effectiveness, its need for reorganization, and its large membership.

Chairman's Update – Mr. Michalman stated that he will use the months of July and August to devise a proposed survey of the needs of the residents and had been discussed by the Commission. The meeting time of 5 p.m. today was discussed. It was decided that the Commission will hold the September 10, 2015 meeting AT 5 p.m. The time of meeting will be on the AGENDA for discussion.

The Commission does not meet in July or August, but the Chairman has the right to call a special meeting if the need arises.

The meeting was adjourned at 6 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Bobbie C. Kling, Secretary to the Commission
SS.MINUTES,June.11.2015